

BOOK II. returned, the intrepid commander having been murdered
Ch. 7. by two of his mutinous companions. Thus perished the
A. D. first adventurers who sought to colonize Louisiana, and,
 1689. with them, the traces of even the forts which they had
 built.

War with the Iroquois. Shortly after, the Canadians were involved in a war
 with the Iroquois, and Montreal itself was attacked, and
 lost two hundred of its defenders. Canada, though long
 planted, did not flourish. The colonists, exposed to the
 rigour of a cold climate, to a military despotism, and with-
 out the motives which called out the energies of their
 English neighbours, hardly numbered, in 1689, twelve
 thousand persons; scarcely a twentieth part of the popu-
 lation of the English colonies at the time.

Meed of praise. And yet no small praise, after all, is due to the French
 Canadians. Against a formidable confederacy of Indian
 tribes, they had explored the waters of the great western
 lakes; they had navigated the Mississippi from the Falls
 of St. Anthony to the Gulf of Mexico; they had estab-
 lished successful missionary stations from Quebec to the
 shores of Lake Superior; they had engrossed the most
 lucrative part of the fur trade; they had established im-
 portant military posts; and they claimed the whole eastern
 coast from the Kennebec to Hudson's Bay, part of New
 York, all of Acadie and Canada, the whole valley of the
 Mississippi, and the territory to the south-west as far as
 the Rio Bravo del Norte. Could France but have retained
 these extensive regions, the English dominion would have
 been restricted to those States which border on the Atlan-
 tic Ocean. But the jealousy of the English and of Eng-
 lish colonies would not allow them to acquiesce in this
 claim, and was destined to lead to future wars, and the
 complete suppression of French dominion in America.

BOOK III.

CHAPTER I.

EARLY COLONIAL HISTORY.—INDIAN WARS.

We have now seen how the various English colonies BR. III.
 were successfully planted on the eastern coast of North Ch. I.
 America, and alluded to the leading principles which led
 to their settlement. We have considered some of the A. D.
 influences which retarded, and some which facilitated their 1606
 growth; the various governments which coerced them, to
 and the conflicting religious opinions which distracted 1658.
 them. We have examined them in detail, as they were Gradual
 gradually colonized, and the various evils to which the settle-
 early settlers were subjected; none of which, great as they ment
 were, paralyzed their energies, or destroyed their bright of the
 hopes. country.

We are now compelled to consider their history in a
 more general manner, and omit allusion to many events,
 which, interesting to the colonists themselves, at an early
 period, have had no very marked effect in the formation
 of national character and institutions. The twig was bent
 in the first half-century after it was planted, and, from the
 inclination it then received, the tree has grown.

Still, there were from time to time great excitements,
 sometimes religious, sometimes political, which called out
 great energies, and which changed the ordinary current

BK. III. of events. It therefore becomes us to mention those facts
Ch. I. and influences which changed public opinion, and contributed in a marked manner to elevate or depress society.

A. D. 1606 to 1688. Some of these originated with the mother country, others from colonial governors. At one time we observe the influence of foreign interference, and at another of agitations resulting from domestic events. Conflicts with the Indians, religious delusions, English commercial restrictions, and early contests for freedom, all had their effect on the welfare of the colonies. After the English Revolution, the same events, in many instances, which created an excitement in New England, also affected the prosperity of Virginia. After that event, a more uniform policy was observable in all the relations between the English government and the colonies. They were regarded in England as a distinct nation, more than before; as composing a part of Great Britain itself, rather than the property of a few nobles and commercial companies. They were looked upon as communities bound to observe the laws of England, to be taxed like towns and cities at home for the support of the central government, and under obligation to take a part in the wars which desolated the continent of Europe. From the first they were dealt with unfairly. There was no justice or magnanimity in English rulers when American affairs were regarded. The colonies paid dearly for the protection afforded them. The people received but few privileges as English subjects, and all they gained was earned by their own enterprise and intrepidity.

English
view of
the colonies.

The causes which promoted or retarded prosperity were both domestic and foreign—internal and external. Let us first consider the domestic history of the colonies. One of the most considerable of those events which affected the condition of the country was the occasional recurrence

of Indian hostilities; extending, at different times, from Maine to South Carolina.

Allusion has already been made to the native peculiarities of the North American Indians, and to the different races which were scattered over the continent. We have also seen how they molested the Europeans "soon after an invasion was made upon their hunting-grounds," and from causes for which the aborigines were not always to blame. The war which the Virginians carried on against the successors of Powhatan, and also the destruction of the Pequods in Connecticut, have been described in the colonization of the country.

Had the various Indian tribes united on the first appearance of the European to expel him from the country he visited, they might have been successful. But they were incapable of concert, and were alienated from each other by mutual jealousies. They were almost constantly at war, and possibly, in the progress of ages, might have exterminated each other. Nor did they learn what might be useful to them from the invaders of their country. They copied the European only in his vices, and seemed to be hopelessly and irretrievably wedded to savage life.

Still, they viewed the encroachments of the English on their hunting-grounds, and their superior power, with great disquietude, and probably were never friendly since they were punished for their first massacre on the James River—1622, and since they were exterminated in the Pequod territory—1636. They were only restrained by fear of their invaders from repeated and constant insurrection.

In 1644, the Virginians suffered severe losses from Indian hostilities, instigated by the aged Opecancanough, who had formed a scheme for the extermination of the colonists. They were surprised as they were preparing

BK. III.
Ch. I.

A. D.
1622.
to
1644

Indian
hostilities.

Want of
union
among
the Indians.

Disgust
of the
Europeans.

Massacre in
Virginia.

Bk. III. for the fast of Good Friday by a party of Indians, and
Ch. I. five hundred people were massacred.

A. D. The details of the war have not been handed down. It
1644. was, however, shorter than the previous one, when Jamestown would have been destroyed but for the admonition of a friendly Indian. The Powhatan confederacy was unsuccessful, and the natives either sunk into servile dependence, or dwindled away; unable to contend with white men in open hostility.

1643. About this time the people of New Amsterdam became involved in a war with the natives. The Raritans, a tribe on the west shore of the Hudson, were accused of having attacked a Dutch bark with the design of robbing it, and also were suspected of stealing hogs from Staten Island. Accordingly, an expedition was sent out against them, and several warriors were barbarously killed. The Raritans naturally retaliated. Other causes also inflamed animosity on both sides. The Hackensacs became involved in the quarrel, against whom a party was led, and which resulted in a massacre of eighty Indians. Roused by injuries, eleven petty tribes united together against the Dutch, who had indiscreetly fanned the flames of war. The Indians were partially supplied with fire-arms, and were wrought up to the highest pitch of ferocity. The terrified colonists fled to New Amsterdam, and a fast was proclaimed. De Vries succeeded in procuring a temporary reconciliation, but fresh injuries provoked new hostilities. A tribe on the Hudson, north of the Highlands, plundered a Dutch canoe laden with furs, and the frontier settlements were again assailed. It was at this time that Mrs. Hutchinson, with all her family, were slain—1643. The colonists made renewed preparations and undertook several expeditions. The Indian villages in various quarters were attacked and destroyed, and a large number of the war-

Indian
hostilities in
New
York.

rriors killed, but not until the colony had suffered considerably. Peace was restored in 1644.

Indian hostilities, however, were desultory, and ill-conducted, until the famous war broke out against the Narragansetts in 1673. Except in the destruction of the Pequods, the red men of New England had not materially diminished in numbers. But their lands had gradually fallen into the possession of the English. The curtailment of the hunting-grounds and the increase of colonial settlements at last led to a dangerous insurrection.

None felt more keenly the growing power of the English than Pometacom, chief of the Wampanoags, who still occupied the eastern section of Narragansett Bay. He was nephew and successor of Massasoit, who originally welcomed the pilgrims to Plymouth, and is best known as the King Philip of Mount Hope; the most enterprising and sagacious Indian with whom the English were ever destined to contend. He was suspected of hostile designs, and had been compelled to deliver up his fire-arms and enter into humiliating stipulations. Some of his men were afterwards hung on suspicion of having committed a murder. He retaliated by plundering some houses near Mount Hope, in Bristol, and by killing several people in Swanzy. The colonists prepared for war. Philip and his warriors fled; and as the Narragansetts on the opposite side of the bay were suspected of giving them shelter, they were required to give pledges of peace. Philip, however, succeeded in making his escape, though hedged in with enemies, to the interior of Massachusetts, and united with the Nipmucks in preparing for more systematic hostilities. These Indians burned the village of Brookfield, and, united with the natives on Connecticut River, attacked Deerfield and Northfield and killed many of the inhabitants. They were now more formidable than at an

Bk. III.
Ch. I.

1673.

Narragansett
war.

King
Philip of
Mount
Hope.

His ravages on
Connecticut River.

Bk. III.
Ch. I.
A. D.
1675. earlier period of the colony, since they had learned the use of fire-arms, with which the colonists had indiscreetly furnished them. The Indians did not venture to fight openly, but in ambush; behind trees, and in dense thickets; and therefore they were not so easily to be overcome.

Battle of
Bloody
Brook. The English were driven to the necessity of defensive warfare. A magazine and garrison were established in Hadley. Thither Captain Lathrop, with eighty picked men, proceeded with three thousand bushels of wheat. But before he arrived at Deerfield, at a stream called Bloody Brook, he was attacked by a large body of Indians, and was destroyed, with his whole company. Deerfield was abandoned and burned. Springfield was attacked, but saved by timely assistance from Connecticut.

Alarm
of fron-
tier
towns. The success of the Indians on the Connecticut encouraged those who inhabited the forests which skirted the Merrimac; for it cannot be supposed that the natives had been restrained from hostilities long before this (1675) except by fear. The frontier settlements in the neighbourhood of Boston were abandoned or destroyed. The Tarentans at the same time attacked the settlements in Maine and New Hampshire. All the various tribes had the same griefs and the same desire to exterminate their invaders.

Destruc-
tion of
the In-
dians. The Narragansetts were the most powerful tribe of Indians in New England, and had not, as yet, joined in hostilities. But they were so generally suspected, that it was resolved by the colonists to make war on them as well as the Wampanoags and other tribes. A large force was accordingly raised, and all New England prepared for a desperate combat. The cold winter of 1675, when even swamps were frozen, made the Indian fortresses accessible to the colonists. The united forces, under the command

of Winslow, approached a swamp in the town of South Kingston, where the Indians were entrenched in a strong fort. It was attacked, and, after a severe struggle, it fell into the hands of the assailants. Six hundred wigwams were destroyed, and the provisions of the Indians were burned.

The assailants, however, suffered severely. Two hundred and thirty men were either killed or wounded, while most of the Indian warriors escaped. Infuriated by their disasters, and suffering from famine, they recommenced hostilities with the utmost barbarity. They scattered themselves along the frontier settlements, and inflicted all the injury in their power. Lancaster was burned. Medfield was half-destroyed, and Weymouth was attacked. Providence, too, was seriously injured. The whole colony of Plymouth was overrun. Houses were burned in almost every town. No one could venture out without danger of being destroyed. The colonists were filled with alarm. A general insurrection and union of the natives threatened every place with danger. Men, women and children perished by the bullets or the tomahawks of the Indians; and some of the most flourishing of the settlements were abandoned.

The dangers and sufferings of the English led to the necessity of a general confederation, and the Indians were now hunted like wild beasts, wherever the white man dared to penetrate. Famine and disease rapidly destroyed those whom war had spared. The Indians, at last, discouraged and broken, sought the most inaccessible retreats. Philip himself, no longer sheltered by the Indians who had committed such ravages on the settlements of Connecticut river, fled to his native swamps. There he was followed, attacked, and killed by Major Church, and his followers were either destroyed or taken prisoners. The

Bk. III.
Ch. I.
A. D.
1675.

Injuries
done to
frontier
towns.

League
to de-
stroy the
Indians.

Death of
Philip.

BK. III. Wampanoags and Narragansetts suffered the fate of the
Ch. 1. Pequods, and their country was annexed to Plymouth,
A. D. and afterwards to Rhode Island. The few surviving
1675. members of these unfortunate tribes migrated to the
North and West, to inflame their brethren to future
hostilities.

War with the Susquehannas. Nearly cotemporary with King Philip's war in Massa-
chusetts and Rhode Island, was that which was carried
on in Virginia, against the Susquehannas and other tribes,
under the guidance of Nathaniel Bacon. Allusion has
been made to these hostilities, so far as pertained to
Bacon's rebellion, and but little more need here be said.

For thirty years the Virginia Indians had maintained
peace; but the same causes which provoked the natives
in New England, also operated at the South. The occa-
sion of the war of which Bacon was the leader, was the
attack of the plantations in Maryland by the Susquehan-
nas. The cause, was the mutual hatred of the antago-
nistic races, and the mutual injuries which had been
inflicted.

Their destruc-
tion. Like all other contests with the Indians, those unfortu-
nate people were the principal sufferers. Those who were
not exterminated, were sold as slaves; which fact shows
the eagerness of the colonists for offensive war; while the
deserted Indian lands were vested in the several counties,
and applied by them towards defraying the expenses of
the war.

Nature of Indian
warfare. The colonies did not again suffer from the Indians
until they were incited by their enemies among the French
to attack the border settlements. Their incursions were
unexpected and sudden, and marked by terrible excesses.
There was no general combination of large bodies of war-
riors, nor did they make any systematic attacks on consi-
derable settlements. They fought in isolated bands, and,

when they had destroyed a village or solitary farm-house,
retreated again to their fastnesses, and reserved their
strength for future barbarities. They could not easily be
tracked or conquered. They watched the white man, and
waited for an opportunity to seize him in the fields, or in
an unprotected house, as they hunted for the deer or the
beaver.

The mutual jealousy between the French and Eng-
lish settlers increased the national antipathies, and the
former were especially guilty of instigating the savages
in Canada and in New York to commit deeds which
no ordinary warfare can justify. The French abso-
lutely headed and guided the hostile natives in their
savage incursions. In one of these, Schenectady, a vil-
lage on the Mohawk, west of Albany, was almost totally
destroyed, 1690, and about sixty persons slain. Another
party surprised Salmon Falls, a frontier village on the
Piscataqua, killed most of the males, and led the women
and children as captives into Canada. York was sur-
prised by a party of French and Indians, and lost seventy-
five of its inhabitants, while as many more were carried
as prisoners to Canada.

Seven years later, in 1697, a winter party of Indians
attacked Haverhill and Boston; and the people on the
frontier were kept in constant alarm. At this period
were built those heavy log houses, as garrisons for pur-
poses of protection, some of which still remain. But
hardly was the white man safe even within these impene-
trable walls. The slightest cessation from his customary
vigilance, any short indulgence from fancied security,
exposed him to the tomahawk of foes who never slept.
He never ventured out into his field without his gun. He
was obliged to clear away the beautiful trees which sur-
rounded and ornamented his house, for fear that Indians

BK. III.
Ch. 1.

A. D.
1681.

Indian
craft and
cruelty.

1690.

Union of
French
and
Indians.

Schenec-
tady at-
tacked.

1697.

Fears
excited
by the
Indians.

Bk. III. might lurk behind them while he laboured for his bread.

Ch. I. In every part of New England, legends are handed down among the people of the sufferings and the heroism of A. D. 1697. their fathers. Women were known to defend themselves with courage and success, in sudden attacks, when their brothers and husbands were absent from their homes.

Hannah Dustin. The intrepidity of Hannah Dustin surpassed that of Jael and Judith of old; for she, when taken by a party of Indians, succeeded in killing the whole of them with her own hands, in the dead of night, when they were overcome with liquor and sleep.

Hatred and fear of the Indians. Amid such dangers and sufferings were the colonists trained. But Indian hostilities, in spite of the superior strength of the whites, retarded prosperity, and filled the most prosperous settlements with alarm. The mere name of Indian conjured up fear and hatred; and the defenceless and the timid were frightened at the word, even as Saracen mothers once quailed before the name of Richard Cœur de Lion.

Peculiarities of Indian warfare. It is unnecessary to detail the injuries which the Indians inflicted at a subsequent period, until the final conquest of Canada by the English. There is great uniformity in the history of Indian hostilities, marked by treachery, cunning, cruelty, and barbarity. Moreover, Indian warfare, after the colonies were involved in the great contest between England and France, is closely connected with intercolonial wars, and will be further alluded to when these are treated. It is time to consider other events which affected the prosperity and tranquillity of the colonies.

CHAPTER II.

RELIGIOUS DISSENSIONS, DELUSIONS, AND PERSECUTIONS.

It seems odd to prefix a chapter with such a title, when we remember the claims which the colonists, and especially the Puritans, made to intellectual light and religious toleration. It would seem that men with their experience and sufferings, driven away from their homes by persecuting bigots, would be singularly free from the faults which they denounced in others, and would be bound together by the bonds of charity and love. Doubtless there was great affection between those who thought alike on all the great questions of the day; but, unfortunately, they did not all think alike, and, as they were all earnest and ardent in defence of their peculiar views, strife and disunion were inevitable. It is a great infirmity, even in noble minds, to be inclined to religious intolerance. It were a mistake to suppose that antipathy to those who differ from us is ordinarily confined to the narrow and the weak. Intolerance is in human nature itself, and generally displays itself with the most bitterness where there are strong passions and warm feelings. It does not come from the head, but from the heart. There will be no warmth of temper displayed in discussing mathematical truths; for these appeal purely to the reason. But when moral and political questions are discussed, then sentiments of affection or interest are brought out, and this

Bk. III.
Ch. 2.
A. D.
1650.
Natural inclination to religious intolerance.